



Call for Proposals New Mexico Universities Collaborative Research (NUCOR)

**Academic Year 1998-99
Proposals Due: March 6, 1998**

Purpose

The NUCOR program funds joint research projects between the Los Alamos National Laboratory and four New Mexico Universities (New Mexico Highlands, New Mexico State, New Mexico Tech, and University of New Mexico). Projects are funded that enhance the Laboratory's competencies in selected areas and that strengthen the technical ties between the Laboratory and the Universities.

Program Description and Duration of Project Funding

A research project is jointly proposed by a Los Alamos Investigator (LI) and a University Investigator (UI) in one of the following Technical Focus Areas:

- Satellites and Remote Sensing
- Earth and Environmental Systems
- Materials and Advanced Manufacturing

Funding requests may not exceed \$55k per year. More than 50% of the funding should be spent by the Universities, but at least 10% must be spent by Los Alamos. A new proposal can describe work to be performed over a period not to exceed 3 years, but approval for funding will be granted one year at a time. The sole source of support for the NUCOR Program is the Los Alamos portion of the University of California Directed Research and Development (UCDRD) funds. Continued funding for the second and third year will, in part, depend on the availability of these funds which varies from year to year. This Call is soliciting proposals for work to be funded for the period of August 15, 1998 to August 14, 1999. This period is referred to as "Academic Year 1998-99" in this Call for Proposals.

Additional Proposal Guidance

The proposed research should be collaborative and should build on the complementary personnel capabilities and research facilities of Los Alamos and the Universities. Participants in the project are expected to spend a significant portion of the project time at Los Alamos and the participating University so that they become familiar with the resources at all of the

institutions involved in the project. Graduate student participation is encouraged, particularly those who have completed their course requirements and are in the research stage of their degree requirements. NUCOR support of graduate students who are still taking courses should be restricted to the fraction of their time devoted to the proposed research. Support for undergraduate students can be sought by submitting a supplemental request for up to \$10k per proposal for non-NUCOR funds.

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An [Adobe Acrobat PDF version of this document is available from this WWW site](#).

The proposal format and instructions follow.

Proposal Submission and Review Process

The first step of the proposal review and selection occurs at the University under the direction of the Research Administrator or by a person designated by the University. No more than 4 new (first-year) proposals may be submitted per year by a given University. All continuing (second- and third-year) proposals from a University may be submitted. The method of reviewing and selecting proposals at the University is left up to the Research Administrator or University designee, but the process should ensure that the proposals meet all of the University requirements including the approval by the contracts and grants office. One copy of the selected proposals (new and continuing) must be submitted no later than March 6, 1998 to:

**STB-UC Coordination Team
MS F673
Los Alamos National Laboratory
Los Alamos, NM 87545**

The new proposals will be evaluated by peer reviewers and then ranked by a technical review committee for the Technical Focus Area selected by the LI and UI as listed on the Data Sheet. The peer reviewers will individually score the proposals according to the evaluation criteria listed in the following paragraph. Using the input from the peer reviewers, the members of the technical review committee will individually develop their own scores using the same evaluation criteria, and then rank the proposals. (Technical review committee members will not score proposals from their own division.) Then during a conference call or meeting of the committee the candidates will be discussed and a final selection will be made.

Proposal Evaluation Criteria

- Creativity and innovation (25)
- Technical impact (on the scientific field in general and on the Laboratory and Campus capabilities) (20)
- Feasibility (20)
- Qualifications of the LI, UI, and other technical participants for this task (15)
- Importance of complementary capabilities and facilities at the University and Laboratory to carry out the proposed research (10)

- Reasonableness of budget, schedule, and facilities for completing the proposed work (10)

The continuing (second- and third-year) proposals will be given a scientific management review by the UC Coordinator to ensure that reasonable technical progress has been made and that the quality of collaboration is fulfilling the purpose of the NUCOR Program. Subject to the availability of UC DRD funds, these proposals will usually continue to be funded if they pass this management review. However, if a continuing proposal requests a larger budget than was granted the first year, that proposal will be treated like a new proposal (except that the earlier year(s) will count against the 3-year limit) and will be submitted to the appropriate technical review committee. Because the probability of continued funding is substantially less in this case, requesting larger budgets for the second and third year is not recommended.

Based on the above reviews and rankings and the requested budgets in each proposal, the UC Coordinator will select the proposals to be funded and the budget level for each proposal. The supplemental requests for non-NUCOR funds associated with the selected proposals will be reviewed by the Team Leader for University Programs. These requests will be granted on the basis of the additional strength brought to the project and the availability of funds. The LIs and UIs will be notified of these decisions by June 22, 1998.

Proposal Format and Instructions

The proposal consists of five main parts:

1. Data Sheet
2. Body
3. Budget Sheet
4. Attachments.
5. Supplemental Request for Non-NUCOR Funds (Optional)
6. List of Peer Reviewers

1. Data Sheet

The quality and completeness of the information on this page can strongly influence the initial ranking of the proposal during the technical review process. The length of the Data Sheet must not exceed one page and must not contain fonts smaller than 12 point (the size used in this set of instructions). The LI and UI can determine which technical committee reviews their proposal by entering the desired Technical Focus Area on the Data Sheet. If the designation of either the LI or UI as Principal Investigator is desired, enter "PI" or "Principal Investigator" after the appropriate name on both the Data Sheet and the first page of the proposal.

The figures in the funding profile table should be the sum of the proposed NUCOR budgets for the University and the Laboratory. (Supplemental non-NUCOR funds should not be included here.) The total of both operating and capital should not exceed \$55K per year. As explained in the Proposal Submission and Review Process section, it is recommended that the budgets requested in the second and in the third year **not** exceed that requested in the first year.

The format of the Data Sheet is:

Los Alamos National Laboratory Academic-Year 1998-99 NUCOR Data Sheet

Project Title:

Los Alamos Investigator (LI):

**Group:
Email:**

Address:

Telephone:

University Investigator (UI):

**University:
Email:**

Address:

Telephone:

Technical Focus Area: (Select one of the 3 listed in the Call)

Nature and Significance of Proposed Work:

Previous Year's Major Accomplishments (If applicable):

Work Proposed for Academic Year 1998-99, Goals, and Expected Results:

NUCOR Funding Profile:

Academic Year:	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001
Operating (K\$)			
Capital (K\$)			
Total (K\$)			

2. The Body

The body of the proposal can be no greater than 5 pages in length using fonts no smaller than 12 point. The text on the Data Sheet (not included in the 5-page limit) is considered the abstract for the proposal and therefore no other abstract is desired in this document.

The format of the body of the proposal follows:

Academic-Year 1998-99 NUCOR Project Proposal

Project Title:

LI Name:

UI Name:

LI Address:

UI Address:

Background and Rationale:

Research Objectives and Goals:

Technical Impact:

Research Approach:

Technical Progress Summary: (For second- and third-year proposals only) (Limit to 1 page including list of publications, conference papers, patents, awards, and degrees derived from this NUCOR-funded work. Also include the names of the postdocs and graduate students that worked on this activity.)

Expected Technical Results:

Capabilities at the Universities and Los Alamos:
(Include both facilities and expertise.)

Literature Cited:

3. Budget Sheet

The expenditures to be made by the Universities and the Laboratory should be listed separately. The total university expenditures should be more than half of the budget, but at least 10% should be spent by the Laboratory. Show all direct costs for Academic Year 1998-99 only (August 15, 1998 to August 14, 1999), including salary, benefits, materials and services, equipment, and travel. Materials and equipment will be owned by the institution (University or DOE (Laboratory)) making the purchase. Make sure the sum of the University and Laboratory costs agrees with that on the Data Sheet.

The costs of the NUCOR Program will be paid entirely from UCDRD funds. These funds are held in an account at the UC Office of the President and will be transferred by Los Alamos direction directly to the NM Universities for the University expenditures. No indirect costs at the Universities will be paid, but up to \$5k of administrative support of the research at the University will be allowed as a direct cost on each proposal. Proposals from University faculty must be submitted through their contracts and grants office for the usual approvals.

Funds for Los Alamos expenses will be transferred to the appropriate Los Alamos group. No G&A burden will be imposed by the Laboratory.

4. Attachments

The following must be attached to the proposal:

- A. Curriculum Vitae** (Attach 1-page vitae for the LI, UI, and other major participants. Include only the most important publications that pertain to the proposed work.)
- B. Required Documentation** (All required documentation to comply with NM University, Laboratory, and DOE requirements including those associated with ES&H and living subjects (human or animal) compliance.)

5. Supplemental Request for Non-NUCOR Funds (Optional)

The Supplemental Request should be limited to one or two pages. No more than \$10k can be requested per year for involvement of undergraduate students with the associated NUCOR project. The format for the request is on Page 7.

6. List of Peer Reviewers

Please provide a list of three suggested researchers who could provide a peer review of the proposal. They obviously should have no conflict of interest in regards to the proposal. Please include name, institution, address, phone number, fax, and email.

Academic-Year 1998-99 Supplemental Request for Non-NUCOR Funds

Project Title: (Same as the associated NUCOR proposal)

Los Alamos Investigator (LI):

Group:

Address:

Telephone:

University Investigator (UI):

University:

Address:

Telephone:

Description of Undergraduate Involvement: (Include type of work student(s) will be doing and how much time each student will be working, e.g., one student 20% during academic year and full time during summer, second student 70% time during summer.)

Impact of Undergraduate Contributions: (Describe the importance of the undergraduate student involvement to the success of the project.)

Supplemental Budget Sheet: (Provide the budget information that is required by the University contracts and grants office for the support of the undergraduate students. Indirect costs are not allowed.)

Last updated on Monday, February 09, 1998